CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A method of recording signals from multiple sources, comprising:

5   converting a first signal from a first signal source to a desired format;

converting a second signal from a second signal source to the desired format, wherein the first and second signals are in different formats;

10   packetizing the first and second signals;

multiplexing the first and second signals into a single transport stream; and

storing the single transport stream.

15   2. The method of Claim 1, wherein the first signal is an analog signal and the second signal is a digital signal.

3. The method of Claim 2, further comprising
20 buffering the first and second signals prior to the packetizing.

4. The method of Claim 2, wherein converting the first signal comprises:
25   demodulating the first signal;

decoding the first signal to a common analog format;

converting the first signal to a digital signal; and

30   encoding the digital signal to the desired format.

5. The method of Claim 4, wherein the desired format is an MPEG standard.

6. The method of Claim 2, further comprising:

demultiplexing a third signal, wherein the third signal is a digital signal in the desired format;

packetizing the third signal; and

multiplexing the third signal with the first and second signals into the single transport stream.

7. The method of Claim 1, further comprising routing the first and second signals from a single device to selected devices for the converting.

8. A system for recording signals from multiple sources, comprising:

a source interface having input terminals for receiving multiple signals of different formats;

a first converter coupled to the source interface for converting signals of a first type to a desired format;

a second converter coupled to the source interface for converting signals of a second type of the desired format;

a selector coupled to the source interface and the first and second converters;

a packetizer coupled to the selector and the first and second converters;

a formatter coupled to the packetizer; and

a storage device coupled to the formatter.

9. The system of Claim 8, further comprising a buffer coupled between the first and second converters and the packetizer.

10. The system of Claim 8, wherein the first converter comprises:

a demodulator coupled to the source interface and the selector;

a decoder coupled to the demodulator;

an analog-to-digital converter (ADC) coupled to the demodulator; and

an encoder coupled between the ADC and the packetizer.

11. The system of Claim 10, wherein the encoder is an MPEG encoder.

12. The system of Claim 8, further comprising a buffer coupled between the first and second converters and the packetizer.

13. The system of Claim 8, further comprising a demultiplexer coupled between the source interface and the packetizer and coupled to the selector.